



# Moultonborough Town News

Fall 2013



## THE POWER OF OUR NEWSLETTER by D. Kuethe

Sometimes it is hard to know whether the information we provide for newsletters has much of an impact. These days we often hear "I don't have time to read that" or "Can you send that to me electronically?" As a department head, when I'm reminded that my article for the town newsletter is due, I often wonder whether anyone will read it. Well apparently they do.

At the Moultonborough Recreation Dept.'s kick-off to our spring walking program, we had a new participant show up. She said she had seen the advertising for the walking program in the spring newsletter and then added that she was glad to see that we had this offering as she would not want to walk alone. Then she asked about our upcoming senior/adult trips, which she had also read about in the newsletter. She was very excited and offered to come up and sign up for the next trip. When we met at the Recreation Department she asked who else was going on the trip. I handed her the list to see if any of her friends were on it. "I don't have that many friends" was the reply. She went on the trip and certainly seemed to have a great time, meeting and making new friends.

As we were getting on the bus that day, another person told me he ".. read about the trip in the Town Newsletter – I didn't know you guys did this sort of thing."

So through the power of a newsletter, designed to keep town residents informed of what is happening in town; where the Recreation Dept. mentioned some of it's upcoming events, two of our residents were able to enjoy a wonderful day touring Portland and enjoying a lunch with a group of new friends. The simple power of the written word still has an impact so pass this along or better yet; Why not join us in an upcoming trip or program? You may see our many choices in another story in this newsletter.



## SIDEWALKS IN THE VILLAGE AREA

The Citizen's Petition, known as Warrant Article 27, that passed at the 2013 Town Meeting this past year has resulted in the Town preparing a plan for the construction of sidewalks in the Village area. In keeping with the petition this is to be submitted to the residents at the 2014 Town Meeting. A call for those interested to become stakeholders in the process to help design potential future walking facilities went out, and four collaborative meetings were held. The first was on April 17th, where the limits of the study area were discussed and decided on. With well-attended sessions over the next three meetings from August through early October, attendees reviewed, assisted with, or came to consensus over criteria and definitions ("givens"); data collection and review; and development of base plans, results from a survey taken of area businesses, finalization of a concept from all the alignments discussed, and the costs to construct along with the estimated on-going maintenance costs associated with a sidewalk system. Products and documents from these sessions, along with the Town Engineer's Final Report are available on the Town Website at [www.moultonboroughnh.gov](http://www.moultonboroughnh.gov) by clicking on Major Projects on the home page and then clicking on Village Sidewalk Study. The full report is also available at Town Hall and on the Town Website. A summary report will be available for citizens at the 2014 Town Meeting. Residents with questions are encouraged to contact Town Planner, Bruce W. Woodruff, at the Town Hall at 476-2347, or via e-mail at [bwoodruff@moultonboroughnh.gov](mailto:bwoodruff@moultonboroughnh.gov).

## 2013 REMAINING HOLIDAYS



**November 28, 2013** – Thanksgiving Day  
**November 29, 2013** – Day After Thanksgiving

**December 24, 2013** – Christmas Eve  
**December 25, 2013** – Christmas Day

**January 01, 2014** – New Year's Day

**SAVE THE DATES:**

**March 11, 2014** – Election Day

**March 15, 2014** – Town Meeting Day

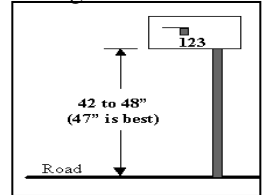
**Need to Contact Us:** Phone: (603) 476-2347 Fax: (603) 476-5835

[www.moultonboroughnh.gov](http://www.moultonboroughnh.gov)

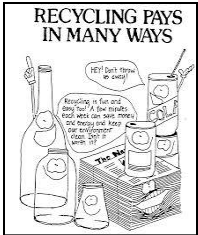
## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NEWS

**Highway Division:** As winter is fast approaching the highway crew would ask all private road residents to help prepare for the winter plowing season, by cutting roadside brush and tree limbs, filling in pot holes and marking obstructions along the roadway (i.e. stumps, rocks etc.). We would also ask that areas where the road stops being plowed be cleared of debris & objects to allow for plowing equipment to turn around safely.

In preparation for the season please check your roadside mailboxes to help minimize the chance of mailbox damage by the wing plow. This can be done by checking that the mailbox is at least 42" off the roadway surface when the mailbox door is open, and that the mailbox support be 3' off the edge of the pavement or travel surface. These guidelines can be found under the Public Works web page on the Town's website by clicking on Department & Boards, then clicking on Public Works, under additional links, click on Suggestions for Placement of Road Side Mailboxes. The Public Works Department has also started a web based "Service Request Form." This form assists the various divisions in responding more efficiently to service requests which are recognized by residents. This form can also be found on the Public Works web page under additional links and is called DPW Service Request/Comment Form.



**Transfer Station:** As the busy summer season winds down, and the facility reflects upon the past season we wanted to alert residents to a few changes which have occurred at the facility to improve safety of the patrons and staff. One change was that previously we had accepted porcelain products and large pieces of glass at the glass recycling bins. This changed this year, due to the hazard of possible breakage in the recycle bin area, and within the initial breakdown of the glass/porcelain products before shipping for crushing. The change evolved into these items now being placed into the construction demo waste container. Please see the attendant for possible fees, for example porcelain toilets individually are \$5.00. Thank you for your understanding as we make these adjustments for the safety of our users and workers.



We also encourage you to make every effort to arrive at the facility at least 15 minutes before before closing so that your disposal process is completed before our closing time. Thank you to our users for their recycling efforts, and if you should have any questions to please see a Facility Attendant or visit the Town's website.

**Facilities/Parks and Cemeteries:** As fall approaches we would ask that families who have Cemetery lots which they have been providing perpetual care for, to please remember to remove annuals, potted plants and to trim bushes and shrubs. Please remember that perpetual care and stone maintenance is the responsibility of the cemetery lot owners. The division provides burial services (fee based) and then mows / trims and maintains existing fencing of the Town cemeteries. We would like to thank our "Adopt a Spot" gardeners, for their beautiful flower beds at our facilities and Town line borders. We would also like to thank our first "Adopt a Facility" participant for their Adoption of the mowing and trimming at the Public Safety Building. This is truly a "Community in Partnership." If you have any concerns, questions or complaints please feel free to contact the DPW office at 253-7445, or Email us [dpw@moultonboroughnh.gov](mailto:dpw@moultonboroughnh.gov).

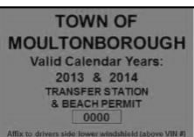


## THE TOWN CLERK IS NOW PROCESSING BOAT REGISTRATIONS

You can now register your boats in the Town Clerks Office. For renewals, please bring in your paperwork that was sent to you by the State of N.H. For new boat registrations you need to bring proof of ownership such as a Bill of Sale/Purchase and Sales Agreement, a Title/Certificate of Origin/Manufacturers Statement of Origin, or a Receipt of Purchase. The information that is required to register a boat is:

- |  |                              |                 |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------|
| - Bow number of the boat (if the boat already has one) | - Hull Identification Number | - Engine Type   |
| - Make & Model   | - Length of Boat             | - Style of Boat |
| - Hull Material  | - Inland or Tidal            | - Color         |
|  | - Type of Fuel               | - Horsepower    |
|  | - Use of Boat                | - Propulsion    |

The Town Clerks Office is open Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.



## GOT A NEW CAR ?? OR REPLACED YOUR WINDSHIELD ??

If you buy a new car or you need to have your windshield replaced and have already purchased your 2013 & 2014 Transfer Station sticker simply peel off the sticker and bring it into us and we will give you a replacement sticker free. If you do not bring in the sticker we have to charge you for the new sticker.

## NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE



This year Vision Government Solutions completed the major update of values. This update included a measure and list, plus a review of all sales and building permits that occurred from April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013. In addition, Vision Supervisors conducted a field review of every property in Town to check for consistency. Based on these reviews and survey of building costs, property values were adjusted to bring assessed values close to 100% of market value.

As a result of the update, assessed values decreased an average of 2.2% from last year. The largest decrease was for unimproved land, which decreased 9%. Residential properties decreased 2%, commercial properties decreased 4%, waterfront properties decreased 2% and condominiums also decreased 2%.

The median assessment to sales ratio determined by the valuation update is 96%. The coefficient of dispersal (COD) is 8.6% and the Price Related differential (PRD) is 1.027. These are all within acceptable standards used by the New Hampshire Assessing Standards Board (ASB) to determine assessment equity.

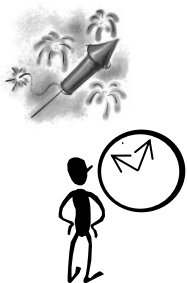
In a separate project, we continued the cyclical property inspections (measure and list). This year we concentrated on Long Island, plus a section of the Winaukee area. This project consisted of an exterior measurement of each building as well as verification of other pertinent features such as docks, breakwaters and outbuildings. If possible, an interior inspection was also made to verify features such as total rooms, bedrooms, baths, flooring, heating and other features. If an interior inspection was not initially made, taxpayers were sent a letter in June requesting they call Vision to set up an interior inspection in July, when more taxpayers were in Town. The measure and list project will continue in 2014 with properties on Moultonboro Neck. We are hopeful to complete the inspection of all properties in town by the end of 2016.



You may ask why the Town needs to inspect my property. In short, it has been at least eight years since most properties had an interior inspection. Many properties have been updated and/or renovated since the last time they were inspected, and not all interior upgrades required a building permit. In addition, we are looking for buildings that have been torn down and properties that have depreciated. The overall goal is to update our records so that each property is fairly and equitably assessed.

As always, we are available to answer any questions you may have regarding your property. You may view your assessment information on line at the website, [www.moultonboroughnh.gov](http://www.moultonboroughnh.gov). You can also view your property record card by clicking on Tax and GIS Maps from the homepage or Property Record Card Information from the Assessor's page; then search by name, address or map and lot. At the bottom left of the page, click on Vision property card.

## "FIREWORKS" NOISE ORDINANCE



Late this summer the Board of Selectmen added "Fireworks" to the Town of Moultonborough's Noise Ordinance. This makes it clear that the use of fireworks during the prescribed quiet hours, after 10:00 p.m. weekdays and midnight on weekends, is a violation of the ordinance. It also clarifies the fact that the police may confiscate fireworks from anyone violating the noise ordinance.

This addition to the noise ordinance was as a result of a public hearing during which residents requested that the board provide relief from what some feel is a growing proliferation in the display of consumer fireworks into early morning hours.

Due to changes in the State Law in 2011, many residents may not be familiar with the regulations pertaining to fireworks. RSA 160-C requires that anyone purchasing, possessing, or displaying permissible fireworks has to be 21 years of age or older, and be on property which they own, or have written permission from the landowner. This is especially note worthy for homeowners who rent or lease their property or allow guests to use the property without the landowner being present. I would suggest that if you plan to provide written permission to a renter or guest that you first check with your insurance provider for guidance. If you are allowing fireworks to be used on your property by someone staying with you, you must be present. RSA 160 also contains language that discusses strict civil liability for violations of the statute.

The 2011 changes to RSA 160 now allow for the purchase and display of certain types of fireworks that were previously banned. This has led to an increase in the use of aerial displays that can affect the peace of an entire neighborhood. If you are providing written permission for renters or guests to display fireworks from your property please remind them that not everyone is on vacation and that many of your neighbors are permanent residents who may not share the same level of appreciation for fireworks displays late into the night.



## RECREATION DEPARTMENT NEWS

Adult Pickle Ball continues to be a big hit! We introduced our adult pickle ball program this past summer as part of our OAR (Operation Active Recreation) program. We have had many requests over the past several years to bring Pickle Ball to Moultonborough – especially from many of our “snowbirds” who were introduced to it down south. We measured out two courts on the basketball court and had “pick-up” Pickle ball on Monday evenings and Friday mornings. We were fortunate to have our own volunteer expert who served as a teacher for those who were unfamiliar with the sport. Brenda Pelchar was a great teacher. For those who don’t know what Pickle Ball is – it has been described as Ping-Pong on steroids. It is played with a wiffle ball, paddle and a court about ½ the size of a tennis court with a low net and is great fun. We had so much interest in it that we have partnered with Meredith Parks and Recreation and will continue to offer it through the month of November at the Meredith Community Center. We will then assess when we will resume after the holidays. Adults who are interested in the program should come and check it out – Tuesdays and Fridays 9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m. at the Meredith Community Center.

Our next adult trip will be to King Arthur Flour in Norwich, VT and the Simon Pearce store in the Mill at Quechee, VT on Friday November 15<sup>th</sup>. Remember our trip to the Boston Flower Show will be held again in March.

At the time of the writing of this article youth soccer and volleyball programs are going strong. The Drop-in program for “kids” in grades 5 and up meets Monday – Thursday from 2:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Youth basketball registrations are due in by November 19<sup>th</sup>. “Nutty November” (basketball kick-off) is scheduled for November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Upcoming events and programs include, but are not limited to the following: Winter Days, coordinated and implemented in conjunction with MCS, ice skating lessons, Teen First Night, a trip to see the Maine Red Claws – families and teens welcome, winter carnival, CATCH kids club, our Father-Daughter Dance, adult fitness programs such as Tai-Chi, Zumba, Yoga and much more. We are also working on arranging a family trip to see the Harlem Globetrotters.

Please check out our website for more information on all of our programs and facilities which is accessed through the Town’s website at [www.moultonboroughnh.gov](http://www.moultonboroughnh.gov).



## COMMUNITY GARDEN'S FIRST SEASON WAS A SUCCESS

Some 20 families were able to enjoy working alongside others on their own plots in raising healthy produce for themselves and others in the Community Garden effort led by Mr. Ken Kasarjian. In addition to Mr. Kasarjian’s committee’s efforts the community had partners with contributions of labor and materials from McCarthy Lawn and Property Management, Lamprey Suburban Septic Service, the Moultonborough Lions Club, Meredith Village Savings Bank, Wayne and Ed Richardson, Brian Blackadar Electric, E.M. Heath’s Hardware, Aubuchon Hardware, Dion’s Plant Place, Lacey Irrigation, Ralph Mitchell, Gilbert Block, and Picnic Farms.

For those of you who may not have heard, certain plots were robbed of many if not all of their remaining vegetables. This unfortunate type of theft also occurred this year in Laconia, Concord and Moulton Farms gardens. As a means to prevent or at least minimize this from occurring in the future, the Garden Committee is recommending that we install and request the following: signs that state that the Garden is open to plot renters only. Unauthorized “picking of vegetables/flowers is prohibited”; install motion lights at all 4 garden corners.; install a wide angle motion camera and request that our Police Department patrol more frequently at night during harvest time.

Anyone who wishes to have the same plot(s) as you enjoyed this past season, or wish to have priority in choosing certain available plots for next season, please download the Application from the Town website (go to Town Committees, then Garden Committee) and mail along with your check of \$60.00 per plot to Alison Kepple at the Town Hall no later than November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Checks should be made payable to the Town of Moultonborough. We expect to rent 40 + plots next season, so please do not delay as plots will again be assigned on a first come/first serve basis!

On behalf of your Garden Committee members, Rich Creelman, Bruce Glaski, Alyssa and Sheryl McCarthy, and Bob Wallace, I wish to thank you for participating in this special resource provided by our generous Town.



## SHORELAND WATER QUALITY PROTECTION ACT

Due to the numerous changes in the past couple of years, this coming summer the Office of Development Services will be doing an update presentation of the State and Town requirements of the Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act (SWQPA) for residents and builders.

Look for more information on this subject by going to our web site at [www.moultonborough.gov](http://www.moultonborough.gov) as the summer months get closer.